■ BUSINESS/B1
Peso hits 4-month high at 55.26:$1, lifted by OFW remittances, yen rebound

■ ACROSS/A19
Cebu lawyers boycott Concom consultation

■ NEWS/A9
Hacienda Luisita union president shot to death

■ WORLD/A10
US black civil rights icon Rosa Parks is dead at 92

FVR: No snap polls; groups pushing for it headless

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Gloria critics shoot down proposal for coalition gov't

Wednesday, October 26, 2005 • 34 pages / vol. 20 / no. 330



"NOT A KANGAROO COURT," says Vice President Teofisto Guingona.



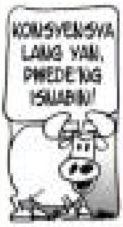
A THOUGHTFUL PAUSE for President Arroyo at the opening rites of the Entrepreneurship and Basic Education Conference.

People's court to try GMA

Palace scoffs at latest opposition 'antic'

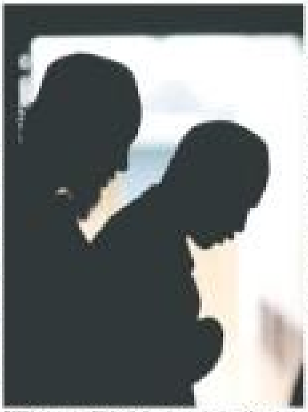
COMES NOW A "PEOPLE'S COURT" TO HEAR the charges in the impeachment complaint that President Macapagal-Arroyo's allies in the House of Representatives threw out in September.

Good news for holidays, according to GMA



Gonzalez ignores rights body

Bird flu info drive stepped up



DEEP in prayer, two Filipino Muslims observe the rites of Ramadan, which ends Nov. 4.

UN STUDY

Anti-Muslim biases fuel conflict in South

RP's poorest provinces like Africa, richest like Jamaica

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage

JDV scuttles Pichay challenge

By Michael Lim Ubac and Norman Bordadora

THE POLITICAL STORM spawned by Rep. Prospero Pichay's reported bid to oust House Speaker Jose de Venecia is over, after the Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino decided to merge with the ruling Lakas-CMD party.



DE VENECIA



PICHAY

Gonzales needs heart surgery, says Senate doc

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

PAL to fly Manila-Beijing route again after 16-year hiatus

PHILIPPINE AIRLINES WILL resume direct flights between Manila and Beijing next month after a 16-year hiatus in hopes of attracting more Chinese visitors, the company said yesterday.

The thrice-weekly flights will begin Nov 11, PAL said in a statement.

Beijing will become the airline's third destination in China, after Shanghai and Xiamen.

The World Tourism Organization estimates that the number of Chinese traveling overseas will soar from the current 20 million a year to 50 million by 2010, and to 100 million by 2020, making China the leading source of tourists worldwide.

"The Philippines has yet to take advantage of this booming traffic," Philippine Airlines said, noting that in the first six months of 2005, the country received only 15,430 visitors from China.

Philippine Airlines suffered a financial crisis in the late 1980s and suspended flights to Beijing in 1989.

It currently flies to 26 destinations in 14 countries and territories, in addition to 13 cities in the Philippines. AP

Blackout hits parts of Metro, Naia



AIRPORT personnel and arriving passengers sort out luggage at the baggage carousel during the power shortage.

Imelda jewelry auction to become tourist event

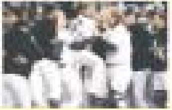
Speedy resolution of Erap case to ease tensions—Chavit

Loren attack uncalled for, says Noli's lawyer



SPORTS

WHAT'S INSIDE



Palace closes door on Lim

BI to order BAP sec-gen's arrest

MALACAÑANG HAS JUNKED an appeal of Basketball Association of the Philippines secretary general Graham Lim to set aside the deportation order earlier issued against him by the Bureau of Immigration.

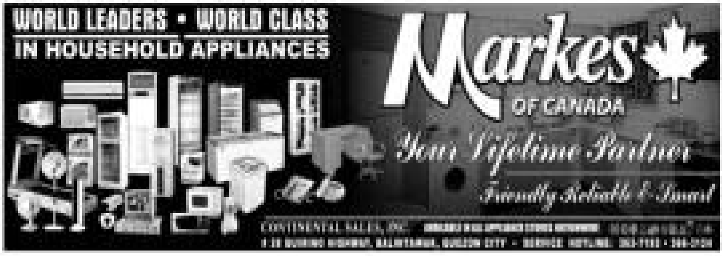
Showbiz doctor faces tax evasion charges

LGUs meet to set curbs on cybersex

By Luige A. del Puerto

A PEDOPHILE CHECKS INTO AN INTERNET cafe, logs onto a website, and starts downloading nude photos of children.

Local response

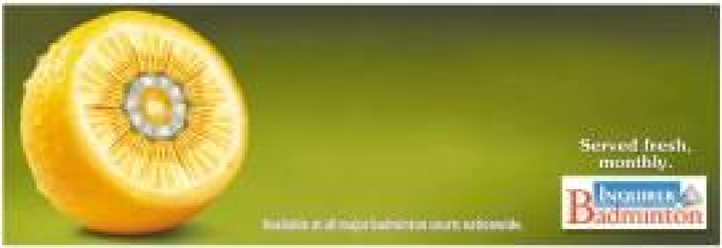


The Daily Gospel

Wednesday, October 26, 2005
30th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Rom 8:26-30
Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Commentary



13 Magdalo officers air support for President

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

People's court to try GMA

Alternative to Congress

3 main changes

To the people

Good news . . .

No room for bad news

The meaning of risk

Spiritual road

Massive cleanup

Hacienda Luisita union president shot to death

Bird flu info drive…

Avoid touching birds



The WORLD

Hurricane Wilma pummels Florida



New bird flu outbreak hits China; threatens Asia anew

BEIJING—CHINA WAS STRUCK by another outbreak of bird flu and a fourth person died from the virus in Indonesia Tuesday amid warnings that the lethal disease could cost the Asia region up to $290 billion.



US civil rights icon Rosa Parks dead at 92

More bird flu cases in Russia confirmed

WHO head calls for united front vs bird flu

Tañamor, 2 other Pinoy boxers lose

No turning back for POC head: SEA Games rites at Rizal Park

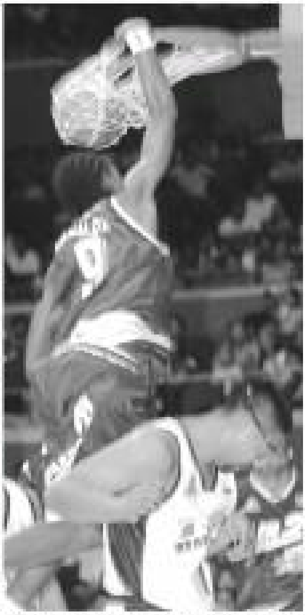
Capistrano sleepless in Los Angeles

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

Coke 'bad boy' hopes to make good this time



Palace closes door on BAP sec-gen Lim

'I knew it was coming'



RP also set to rule pool paralympics?

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

Probers search for cause of Nigerian plane crash



'SPAIN IN HONG KONG' FESTIVAL

At least 17 killed in attacks on Baghdad hotels

Time running earthquake su



N. Korea to attend November nuclear talks

...out for Pakistan ...rvivors, says UN

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



What's up?

AFTER SURVIVING WHAT HER ALLIES CALLED A "creeping impeachment," President Macapagal-Arroyo seems to be facing a quickening erosion of her base of support. While local government officials appear to be steadfast in their endorsement of her leadership and her allies in the House of Representatives remain largely undiminished, the same cannot be said of her other supporters. In the last few days, some political and religious leaders who were firmly on her side during last year's elections have been speaking somewhat ominously about the need for the nation's leaders to make some "sacrifices."

EDITORIAL

Last Friday, Executive Minister Eraño Manalo of the Iglesia ni Cristo and Brother Mike Velarde of El Shaddai took the unprecedented step of issuing a joint statement appealing to both administration and opposition leaders "to bring to an end the political bickerings that have been going on for months and hurting our nation." They urged the political leaders to "set aside their personal interests and attend to their duty to alleviate the sufferings of the Filipino people." They also pointed out that the issues raised by both sides could be resolved "if only they will offer to sacrifice a portion of what they believe are theirs to hold on to."

The rather reclusive Manalo has yet to spell out in clear terms his call for sacrifice. But the flamboyant Velarde has left very little doubt about what he wants Ms Arroyo to do, which is to relinquish power, either completely or partially. Velarde's most moderate proposal would see the President giving 60 percent of Cabinet positions to the opposition. His extreme position calls for the holding of a snap presidential election in 2007. Alternatively, he suggests a referendum on her presidency, with her pledging to abide by its results. While Velarde gives Ms Arroyo several options, none of them seeks to preserve the status quo. Velarde is asking her to give up most of her powers, at the very least, or even the presidency itself—hardly the call of a true believer in her leadership or even someone who harbors any hope that she can still turn things around.

Velarde and Manalo are not the only ones among her allies to advise her, indirectly and diplomatically, that she shouldn't serve out her six-year term. Former President Fidel V. Ramos has recently renewed his call for Ms Arroyo to make a "graceful exit" through a revision of the Constitution that would change the form of government from presidential to parliamentary by 2007 at the latest. That means Ms Arroyo would have to cut her term to three years instead of six. Ramos told the Makati Business Club last week that the President should subordinate her personal interest to the national interest. Like the two religious leaders, he said Ms Arroyo should make the sacrifice of "giving up a part of your elected term of office." He went on to say that if he was supportive of Ms Arroyo, it was only because he could see no better alternative.

Except for that back-handed compliment, there was nothing really new in Ramos' statement. He first aired this proposal in July, when he rushed to the aid of the President as she was being besieged by demands for her resignation by former President Corazon Aquino, Senate President Franklin Drilon and 10 former top administration officials. What is most intriguing is why Ramos is reiterating his call at this particular time. And for that matter, why Velarde is suddenly floating so many different proposals that have the same effect of shortening the President's term and trying to enlist the support of other religious leaders, like Manalo and Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, as well as business leaders behind his efforts.

What is driving them to make these almost frenzied attempts to hammer out a political compromise that would break the stalemate between the administration and the political opposition? Does everything spring from a genuine concern over the sad and deteriorating economic lot of most Filipinos? Or do they sense something more sinister looming in the horizon, like a resurgence of military adventurism?

Hey guys, what about the people?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

WHILE IT IS FULL STOP ON IMPEACHMENT and the brakes have been applied on snap elections, it's full speed ahead for Charter change and a parliamentary-federal form of government for the 50-member Consultative Commission illegally created by Mrs Arroyo. In fact, the Abueva railroad is running so fast it is bound to derail once it comes to a curve. A few days ago, the commission, by a vote of 32-7, decided to recommend to the President and Congress a parliamentary-federal system of government. Then it's going to go out and "consult," hmm, the people. This is like the train leaving the station but without its most important passenger, the people.

"The ConCom would be seen as an appendage..." said Andres Bautista.

"We are no more than a rubber stamp commission," Lim said, with former UP president Jose Abueva, chair of the commission, as the biggest stamp of them all.

...

Problem-solving

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT FINALLY PEOPLE are thinking of elections to solve the problem of an unelected president. The bad news is how they want it to happen.

...

Russian realities

COMMENTARY

Richard N. Haass

Kalantiaw complex

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Family planning and news values

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Santacruzan in Yokohama

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

'VAT' with me until gov't delivers on EVAT

[illegible]

—PAULINE GIANNA RACHELLE ORILLOSA,
2nd year student,
Regional Science
High School for NCR

Atienza is wrong on bikes as signs of backwardness

[illegible]

—JERRY IBON

Who is power-hungry?

[illegible]

—ERWIN REYES

Incredible excesses, incredible arrogance

[illegible]

La Salle findings out today

School officials clam up on eve of crucial announcement



U-19 nat'l football kicks off in Bago today

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Elliot visits Benguet school

By Delmar Cariño
La Trinidad, Benguet

THIS IS ONE JET-SETTING toy with a purpose. Elliot, a stuffed toy moose from a primary high school in Sweden, had started a global journey aimed at improving the communication skills of high school students and enhancing cultural and historical exchanges among them via the Internet.

[illegible]



[illegible]

Towns profit from junking of gigantic cement plants

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
Bolinao, Pangasinan

THIS IS A STORY OF TWO towns in western Pangasinan that rejected multibillion-peso cement plant complexes proposed by international companies [illegible]

[illegible]

Tourists return

[illegible]

Agno's experience

[illegible]

Cebu lawyers boycott Concom meeting

CEBU CITY—LAWYERS BELONGING TO THE Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Cebu City chapter and a militant group yesterday boycotted the consultation of the Consultative Commission bent at getting the sentiment of the people on proposed constitutional reforms.



ANCESTRAL GROUND

A man starts to clean the burial ground of a relative in La Trinidad, Benguet in preparation for the annual ritual of All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

ROUNDUP

Cops arrest German in killing

Rebs assassinate village chief

Car theft suspects held

Bacolod adopts Pacquiao

Halal certifying body formed; export boost seen

Vice gov says he accepts appeals court ruling on Maliksi

High costs force shift from 'bangus' to 'tahong'



EXERCISES

Members of the US Deep Reconnaissance Platoon 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit from Okinawa, Japan, stand guard as they launch an assault while their Filipino counterparts observe during an extensive close-quarter battle as part of the "Talon Vision 06" joint military exercise inside Clark, a former US base facility in Pampanga.

Cha-cha revives Cordillera autonomy bid

By Delmar Cariño



WILD CATCH
A wildcat from the jungles of Agusan del Norte struggles to get free from a wire cage where it was put following its capture by poachers.

Falling copra prices worry coconut agency

Man out for vengeance hacks dead own nieces

GMA open to 'principled cooperation' with foes, says Palace

By Christine O. Avendaño

[illegible]

Behind the scenes

[illegible]

Lacson, extreme Left out

[illegible]

Issue of timing

[illegible]



[illegible]

Security beefed up at Palace

[illegible]



FVR: No snap polls; groups pushing for it headless

[illegible]

Lack of critical mass

[illegible]

Vacancy

[illegible]

Thailand and Germany

[illegible]

'Out of conscience'

[illegible]

Form truth commission

[illegible]



Gloria critics shoot down coalition gov't



Palace terms

Suspicion on both sides

No place for dual loyalties

'Mouse won't bite'

But where is Garci?

Beware of Trojan horses

Anti-Muslim …

Standard sample

Abu Hassin or Danilo?

'Stereotype' questions

Muslim solon not surprised

RP's poorest provinces like Africa, richest like Jamaica

Gonzalez ignores rights body



Freedom not absolute

Presumed valid

Consult mayor

EZ2 14 17 SUERTRES 6 9 2 SIX DIGIT 3 4 3 4 6 2

METRO

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min 2 8 10 13 29 35 P5,381,179.20

Dump closes today

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Tipping fee issue

Tarlac dump

Tollway fees to increase Nov. 1



OF REMEMBRANCE

By Christian V. Esguerra

Flat rates

Task force monitors feathered guests

By Jocelyn R. Uy



METROBRIEFS

Arroceros park for education, says mayor

Tina G. Santos

Mon Ilagan not giving up Sta. Lucia

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Feeding program sees bright future



Manila, Malabon, Valenzuela to go dry

National Book Week activities set

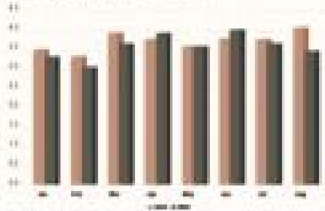
Tractor kills 2-year-old



BUSINESS

Rise in crude prices bloats August import bill

TOTAL IMPORTS



Peso surges to 4-month high

Remittances, yen rebound boost local currency

THE PESO YESTERDAY SURGED to a four-month high of 53.26:$1, lifted by remittances from overseas Filipino workers and the strengthening of the Japanese yen.

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



BERNANKE

Backer of Fed transparency to succeed Greenspan



BERNANKE

Bourse bounces back, posts 10.2% growth

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez



LIM

Electronics industry projecting 10% growth in exports next year

PSBank

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

(Head Office and Branches)

As of September 30, 2005

ASSETS

LIABILITIES

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Board of Directors

Principal Officers

The revival of GenBank

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

BMW alert

Small beer

Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

Stocks rise ...

Business

With crisis, GMA seen unable to steer economy

Morgan Stanley says foreign investors staying out



Pharmaceuticals urge changes in RP patent law

Prudential's failed SPV deal weighs on BPI

PSBank posts 60% jump in net profit

By Doris C. Dumlao

Disclosures



Bernanke effect lifts shares in global trade



TRADERS work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The market rose after White House economist Ben Bernanke was nominated by US President George W. Bush as the next Federal Reserve chairman to replace Alan Greenspan.

China economy to expand at slower rate in 2006-2010

Backer . . .

Court asked to dismiss Smart suit vs Sun's 24/7 promo

Transco inks 3 more lease-purchase deals

Privatization of sub-transmission assets

CebuPac offers special fare



Peso surges to 4-month high

Rise in crude prices . . .

LIFESTYLE

Editor Cheche Lazaro-Formoso
Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor



SWAROVSKI-STUDDED gown by the late Joe Sal... courtesy of Aliz. Twafe

The age of innocence

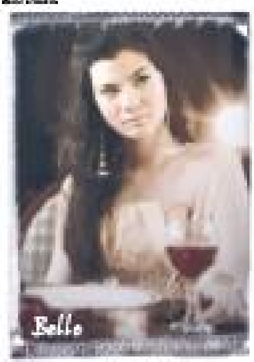
Text and styling by Bianca Consunji
[illegible]
Photos by Jake Verzosa

IT IS REFRESHING TO SEE young people acting their age—or sometimes even younger—instead of trying to appear older and more mature than they really are.

While a certain degree of maturity is appreciated, it can be disturbing to see scantily clad 10-year-old girls dragging their moms to the cosmetics counter so they can buy lip gloss and blush.

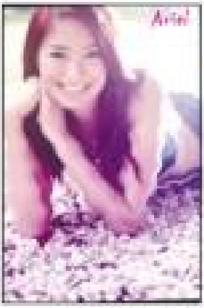
So it is a welcome development that more and more young people are coming back to the things they enjoyed as children, instead of dismissing them altogether. The resurgence of interest in children's literature (Chronicles of Narnia, Roald Dahl and Harry Potter come to mind) and movies only proves that some childhood loves will never be outgrown.

TURN TO C2



GOLD corset top, X. Pearl chandelier earrings and gold bangle, Happy David







The age of innocence





If the things that made you happy then can make you happy for a minute or two now, then by all means, go for it.

My beauty arsenal



Lora Gabol

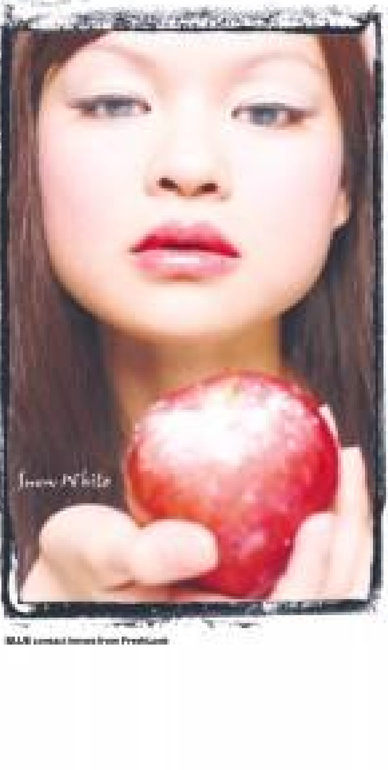
The contents of my daily purse ensure that I am fabulously armed at all times

Sizzling masquerade ball



The age of innocence

BLUE gown, [illegible] Necklace, Happy David



BLUE contact lenses from FreshLook



PURPLE dress, [illegible] Pearls and bangle, Happy David

[illegible]

then by all means, go for it.

Although it wouldn't be advisable to carry things too far in your everyday life (think of what you'd look like if you bit into an apple and fainted at school), a little daydreaming and [illegible] certainly wouldn't hurt. If you've always nurtured a secret dream of becoming Cinderella, then find a gown, tiara and glass slippers for a costume party. The pumpkin carriage and midnight curfew is optional.

Skip the house music for a day and sing along to "Part of Your World" on your iPod. You'll be surprised at how things become more pleasant even for a day. Halloween is supposed to be a scary occasion, but there's no harm in becoming a princess rather than a villain.

E-mail the author at [illegible]

Visit the photographer at http://[illegible].blogspot.com and the makeup artist at http://[illegible].blogspot.com